

**[CLAIMS]**

[Claim 1] A method for operating a laundry device comprising:

a sterilizing step for supplying steam to an inside of a drum having laundry introduced thereto for progressing sterilizing and/or soaking of the laundry;

5 a washing water supply step for supplying washing water to an inside of the drum having the laundry introduced thereto according to an amount of the laundry;

a washing step for rotating the drum for a preset time period to perform washing;

a rinsing step for performing rinsing at least once upon finish of washing; and

a spinning step for performing a final spinning cycle upon finish of the rinsing,

10 which are to be progressed in succession.

[Claim 2] The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the sterilizing step is performed continuously for a time period enough to soak the laundry with the steam.

15 [Claim 3] The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the sterilizing step has a cycle time period shorter than a cycle time period of the washing step.

[Claim 4] The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the steam supplied in the sterilizing step has a temperature the same with, or higher than a temperature at which  
20 sterilizing of the laundry is possible.

[Claim 5] The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a refresh step for putting the steam supplying part into operation after the final spinning step is performed, for spraying steam to the inside of the drum having the laundry introduced thereto.

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[Claim 6] The method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the steam supplied in the refresh step has a temperature the same with, or higher than a temperature at which sterilizing of the laundry is possible.

[Claim 7] The method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the refresh step is performed only for a time period enough to refresh the laundry in the drum, of which washing is finished.

5 [Claim 8] The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the step of stopping operation of the steam supplying part before the washing water supply step is performed.

[Claim 9] A method for operating a laundry device comprising:

a washing water supply step for supplying washing water to an inside of a drum  
10 having laundry introduced thereto according to an amount of the laundry;

a washing step for rotating the drum for a preset time period to perform washing;

an intermediate spinning step for draining residual washing water as well as spinning the drum at a high speed for making an intermediate extraction of water when the washing is finished;

15 a sterilizing step for putting a steam supplying part into operation for spraying steam into the inside of the drum having the laundry introduced thereto for sterilizing the laundry when the intermediate spinning is finished;

a rinsing step for performing rinsing at least once upon finish of sterilizing; and

a final spinning step for performing a final spinning cycle upon finish of the rinsing,  
20 which are to be progressed in succession.

[Claim 10] The method as claimed in claim 9, wherein the steam supplied in the sterilizing step has a temperature higher than a temperature at which sterilizing of the laundry is possible.

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[Claim 11] The method as claimed in claim 9, wherein the sterilizing step is performed for a time period enough to sterilize various microbes.

[Claim 12] The method as claimed in claim 9, further comprising a refresh step for putting the steam supplying part into operation to spray steam into an inside of the drum having the laundry introduced thereto after the final spinning step is performed.

5 [Claim 13] The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein the steam supplied in the refresh step has a temperature higher than a temperature at which sterilizing of the laundry is possible.

[Claim 14] The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein the refresh step is performed  
10 only for a time period enough to refresh the laundry in the drum, of which washing is finished.

[Claim 15] A method for operating a laundry device comprising:

a washing water supply step for supplying washing water to an inside of a drum having laundry introduced thereto;

15 a washing step for rotating the drum for a preset time period to perform washing;

an intermediate spinning step for draining residual washing water as well as spinning the drum at a high speed for making an intermediate extraction of water when the washing is finished;

a rinsing step for performing rinsing at least twice upon finish of the intermediate  
20 spinning with cold and warm water, alternately; and

a final spinning step for performing a final spinning cycle upon finish of the rinsing, which are to be progressed in succession.

[Claim 16] The method as claimed in claim 15, wherein the rising step is made by  
25 progressing the following steps in succession:

a first rinsing step for performing rinsing with the cold washing water,

a second rinsing step for performing rinsing with the warm washing water after finish of the first rinsing step, and

a third rinsing step for performing rinsing with the cold washing water.

[Claim 17] The method as claimed in claim 16, further comprising an intermediate spinning step between the first, and second rinsing steps, and between the second, and third  
5 rinsing steps.

[Claim 18] The method as claimed in claim 15, further comprising a sterilizing step for putting a steam supplying part into operation before the washing water supply step is performed, for spraying steam into an inside of the drum having the laundry introduced  
10 thereto to soak the laundry.

[Claim 19] The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the sterilizing step is performed continuously for a time period enough to soak the laundry in the drum.

15 [Claim 20] The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the sterilizing step is performed for a time period shorter than a cycle time period of the washing step.

[Claim 21] The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the sterilizing step is provided at a temperature higher than a temperature at which sterilizing of the laundry is  
20 possible.

[Claim 22] The method as claimed in claim 15, further comprising a sterilizing step for putting a steam supplying part into operation after the intermediate spinning step is performed, for spraying steam into an inside of the drum having the laundry introduced  
25 thereto to sterilize the laundry.

[Claim 23] The method as claimed in claim 22, wherein the steam supplied in the sterilizing step has a temperature the same with, or higher than a temperature at which

sterilizing of the laundry is possible.

[Claim 24] The method as claimed in claim 23, wherein the sterilizing step is performed for a time period enough to sterilize various microbes.

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[Claim 25] The method as claimed in claim 15, further comprising a refresh step for putting the steam supplying part into operation to supply steam to an inside of the drum after the final spinning step is performed.

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[Claim 26] The method as claimed in claim 15, wherein the refresh step is performed only for a time period enough to refresh the laundry in the drum, of which washing is finished.

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[Claim 27] The method as claimed in claim 15, wherein the steam supplied in the sterilizing step has a temperature the same with, or higher than a temperature at which sterilizing of the laundry is possible.